




Speech By
Brittany Lauga

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

Record of Proceedings, 13 October 2022

MOTION

Youth Crime

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (5.25 pm): I rise to speak against the motion moved by the member for Currumbin and in support of the government's amendment. In doing so, I would like to correct the record. The member for Gregory got up in this place today—and I note the Leader of the Opposition has made a post on social media as well—claiming that the Dingo Hotel is closed. However, this business is actually still open. I table a copy of the Dingo Hotel's Facebook page, which clearly says—

... there has been some confusion on the pubs status we are not shut we are definitely open and operating our hours are Mon through to Sat we are open 4 till required.

Lunch is only on Thursday, Friday and Saturday 12-2 and then we are open 4 till required

Sunday is 12pm-6pm Thank you

I table a copy of the Dingo Hotel's social media account.

Tabled paper: Extract, undated, from the Facebook page of the Dingo Hotel, in regards to the hotel's operating hours [1664](#).

I would encourage everyone in this place when they have the opportunity—

Ms Grace interjected.

Ms LAUGA:—and I take the interjection—to go to the Dingo Hotel during those opening hours and have a meal and a beer and support this great local business in Central Queensland. I am incredibly concerned about those opposite perpetuating these rumours about businesses being closed when they are actually still open. It is total scaremongering. I call on the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Gregory to apologise to the Dingo Hotel and correct the record in this place to ensure that people in Central Queensland and people who travel from all over the country visit that pub and support that small business.

Mr Millar: Why don't you come to Dingo with me? Come to Dingo with me and sit down with Darren Bauman—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, member for Gregory!

Ms LAUGA: I would absolutely enjoy having a beer at the Dingo Hotel with you. I would love to go and have a beer with you at the Dingo Hotel.

Mr Millar interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat, please, member. Member for Gregory, you are warned under the standing orders.

Ms LAUGA: I would absolutely love to take the member for Gregory up on that.

Mr Millar interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Gregory, you can leave the chamber for one hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Gregory withdrew from the chamber at 5.27 pm.

Ms LAUGA: I hope that when the member for Gregory returns he takes it upon himself at the first opportunity to correct the record in this place to ensure that everyone in Queensland and right around this country knows that that pub is still very much open. Those opposite cannot help themselves when it comes to cheap political stunts and attacks, and this is a perfect example—not only this motion but the way in which the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Gregory claim that a pub is actually closed when it is not.

Government members: Shame!

Ms LAUGA: It is shameful.

I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to those victims of crime right across the state, including the Dingo Hotel, which has been having a very difficult time. That has not been improved by the fact that those opposite come in here saying that the pub is actually closed. For those people who are victims of crime it is an awful experience. I can speak from experience because recently someone tried to get into my car at my house. My parents also had someone try to break into their house. My partner had someone break into his car and my brother had his car broken into. It is a really scary thing to happen. That is why this side of the chamber is incredibly dedicated to ensuring we improve community safety.

We on this side come in here and talk about the ways in which we are helping to improve community safety, the investments that we are making to improve community safety, the investments that we are making to help young people get their lives back on track so that they can have happy and healthy lives contributing to our community. Those opposite do not like talking about community safety. They do not like talking about ways in which we can help improve community safety. Every time—

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Ms LAUGA: I take that interjection from the member for Nanango, because every time those opposite move a motion about youth crime it is never about solutions and it is never about ways in which we can improve the situation; it is always about fearmongering. It is all part of this fearmongering process that they go through to scare our community when we should be talking about positive solutions. We have been waiting for 21 months now for this crime plan which they have been talking about—21 months! It cannot be that hard to come up with a few ideas. I invite those opposite to correct the record and the next time they come in here and move a motion like this they should have some workable solutions.